Message Text

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R 141936Z MAR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: TBIO, SENV, IN

SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS

1. THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE IS INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF U.S. AND GOI LAWS INVOLVING THE IMPORTATION INTO THE U.S. OF LIVE REPTILES FROM INDIA.

2. REQUEST AMEMBASSY CONTACT:

INSPECTOR - GENERAL OF FORESTS
MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, C.D. AND COOPERATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, INDIA; AND

CONTROLLER OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
CONTROLLER OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS
UDYOG BHAVAN, MARILANA AZAD ROAD
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, NEW DELHI, INDIA.

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3. ADVISE THESE OR OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS THAT ON

2/28/75 A SHIPMENT OF LIVE REPTILES WAS IMPORTED INTO THE U.S. AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. THE CONSIGNOR WAS SACHETAN, 1-4/5 SETARAN BLDG., PALTON ROAD, BOMBAY, INDIA. THE CONSIGNEE WAS DR. ALTIM C. TWISS, HERPETOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND EXCHANGE, 1735 WINCHESTER AVENUE, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 55008. TWISS IS A COMMERCIAL DEALER IN LIVE REPTILES. THIS SHIPMENT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY AN UNNUMBERED INVOICE DATED 2/26/75 WHICH MADE REFERENCE TO GRI GL 153846 DATED 2/22/75. THE CARRIER WAS JAPAN AIRLINES. THE CONTENTS OF SHIPMENT WAS IDENTIFIED BY U.S. EXPERTS AS FOLLOWS:

5 SAND BOAS (ERYX SP.)

30 CAMELEONS (CAMELEON SP.)

40 LIZARDS (UROMASTIC HARDWICKI)

25 INDIAN TENT TURTLES (KACHUGA TECTA TECTA)

15 INDIAN ROOF TURTLES (KACHUGA TECTA TECTA)

6 GECKOE (HEMEDACTYLUS BACHNAULTI)

4 GECKOE (HEMEDACTYLUS FALAVIVIRIDIS)

1 TRAVANCOE TORTOISE (GROCHELONE TRAVANCORICA)

3 INDIAN STAR TORTOISE (GROCHELONE ELEGONS)

25 INDIAN FLAPSHELL TURTLES (LISSEMYS PUNCTATA)

7 GEOMYDA TRYJUGA CORONATA

- 4. REQUEST AMEMBASSY OBTAIN STATEMENTS FROM APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS CERTIFYING (A) WHETHER OR NOT EXPORT PERMITS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED BY GOI TO LEGALLY EXPORT THE ABOVE REPTILES FROM INDIA;(B) IF EXPORT PERMITS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED WERE THESE DOCUMENTS ISSUED FOR THIS SHIPMENT;(C) DOES GOI HAVE ANY RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING THE USE OF THIS WILDLIFE I.E. EVIDENCE INDICATES THESE REPTILES ARE INTENDED FOR COMMERCIAL SALE TO ANYONE WHO WILL PAY THE PRICE;(D) DOES GOI BELIEVE THAT ANY OF THEIR LAWS WERE VIOLATED IN THE EXPORTATION OF THESE REPTILES AND THE SUBSEQUENT IMPORTATION INTO THE U.S.?
- 5. AMEMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CERTIFY AND EXEMPLIFY THE ABOVE GOI OFFICIALS' STATEMENTS AND IDENTIFY, IF POSSIBLE, FOR EVIDENTIARY PURPOSES.
- $6.\ PLEASE$ PASS REPLY TO T.L. STRIEGLER, DIVISION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAW ENFORCEMENT, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Subject: ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS TAGS: TBIO, SENV, IN, US

To: NEW DELHI

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